

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 605

By Matlock

A RESOLUTION to recognize Michael Payne, Jr., for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding young citizens who, through their dedicated efforts, bring honor to the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, six-year-old Michael Payne, Jr., is one such exemplary young man who recently reached out with compassion and collected 311 teddy bears for the patients at East Tennessee Children's Hospital; and

WHEREAS, inspired by his father, who is a cancer survivor, and his godmother's daughter, Kylie, who was diagnosed with a brain tumor last year, Michael was determined to help those unfortunate souls suffering from debilitating diseases; and

WHEREAS, having viewed a television program in which a kind doctor comforted a suffering child with the gift of a cuddly teddy bear, Michael was struck with the brilliant idea to provide each patient at East Tennessee Children's Hospital with a stuffed animal on Christmas Day; and

WHEREAS, using the money he earned from doing household chores and donations from the tooth fairy, this Greenback School kindergartner poured his heart and soul into his extraordinary project; and

WHEREAS, Michael and his thoughtful idea eventually launched a community-wide movement, with eight large bags and three huge boxes of adorable teddy bears eventually being collected for distribution on Christmas Day; and

WHEREAS, a sensitive and remarkable young man, Michael Payne, Jr., is truly a shining example of how one person can make a positive difference in the world; and

WHEREAS, through this philanthropic effort, Michael has evinced his deep commitment to the honorable qualities of benevolence and love for his fellow human beings; he epitomizes the spirit that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, we wish to seize this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding young citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we recognize and applaud Michael Payne, Jr., for his honorable and astute service to the children of Tennessee, salute his laudable efforts to bring teddy bears to the patients of East Tennessee Children's Hospital, and extend to him our best wishes for his continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.